

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6466

To apply an alternative payment amount under the Medicare Program for certain graduate medical education programs established to train residents displaced by natural disasters.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 10, 2008

Mr. CAZAYOUX (for himself, Mr. MELANCON, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mr. JEFFERSON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To apply an alternative payment amount under the Medicare Program for certain graduate medical education programs established to train residents displaced by natural disasters.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. ALTERNATIVE PAYMENT AMOUNTS FOR GRAD-**
2 **UATE MEDICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS ES-**
3 **TABLISHED TO TRAIN RESIDENTS DIS-**
4 **PLACED BY NATURAL DISASTERS.**

5 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding any other provi-
6 sion of law, in applying section 1886(h) of the Social Secu-
7 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww(h)(2)), and any regulations
8 implementing such section, with respect to an eligible hos-
9 pital for a cost reporting period beginning on or after July
10 1, 2005, the Secretary of Health and Human Services
11 shall provide for payments for direct graduate education
12 costs in accordance with subsection (c) for such hospital
13 and cost reporting period.

14 (b) **ELIGIBLE HOSPITAL DEFINED.**—In this section,
15 the term “eligible hospital” means a hospital that—

16 (1) did not have a graduate medical education
17 program under section 1886(h) of the Social Secu-
18 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww(h)) before the date of
19 a presidential declaration of major disaster issued
20 under section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster
21 Relief and Emergency Assistance Act;

22 (2) established such a program to educate resi-
23 dents displaced from a graduate medical education
24 program impacted by such disaster; and

1 (3) is located in a wage area that is in, or im-
2 mediately adjacent to, an area for which such dis-
3 aster was declared.

4 (c) PAYMENT TO ELIGIBLE HOSPITALS.—The pay-
5 ment amount for an eligible hospital for a cost reporting
6 period in which the hospital operates a graduate medical
7 education program referred to in subsection (b)(2) shall
8 be—

9 (1) for the first such cost reporting period, the
10 reasonable costs (as determined based on rules ap-
11 plied in determining reasonable costs under section
12 1886(h)(2)(A) of the Social Security Act) incurred
13 by the hospital for such program;

14 (2) for the second such cost reporting period,
15 computed based on an alternative FTE resident
16 amount calculated as described in section
17 1886(h)(2)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
18 1395ww(h)(2)(A)), but using the reasonable costs
19 incurred by the hospital for such program during
20 such second cost reporting period and the number of
21 FTE residents (as described in section
22 1886(h)(3)(B)(ii) of the Social Security Act (42
23 U.S.C. 1395ww(h)(3)(B)(ii))) in the program for
24 such second cost reporting period; and



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1 (3) for the third such cost reporting period and
2 each subsequent cost reporting period, computed
3 based on the alternative FTE resident amount under
4 this section for the previous cost reporting period,
5 updated and adjusted as described in section
6 1886(h)(2)(D) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
7 1395ww(h)(2)(D)).

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